

**Texas Diabetes Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 27, 2023
1:00 p.m.**

**Physical Location: Department of State Health Services
Robert Moreton Bldg., Room M-100
1100 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756
TEAMS Virtual Meeting**

Agenda Item 1: Welcome, logical announcements, and roll call

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Dr. Stephen Ponder at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Jacqueline Thompson, facilitator with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), Advisory Committee Coordination Office (ACCO), announced that the meeting was being conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, and conducted the member roll call. Ms. Thompson announced the presence of quorum.

Table 1: TDC member attendance at the Thursday, April 27, 2023 meeting.

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
1. Mr. Dirrell Jones	X		10. VACANT		
2. Dr. Gary Francis	X		11. VACANT		
3. Dr. Christine Wicke	X				
4. Ms. Aida (Letty) Moreno-Brown	X		Non-Voting Members		
5. Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice Chair	X		Ms. Lisa Golden, TWC		
6. Dr. Ninfa Peña-Purcell	X		Dr. Kelly Fegan-Bohm, DSHS	X	
7. Mr. Jason Ryan	X		Dr. Mitchel Abramsky, HHSC	X	
8. Ms. Maryanne Strobel	X		Ms. Diana Kongevick, ERS	X	
9. VACANT			Ms. Umme Salama Oan Ali, TRS	X	

Agenda Item 2: Introduction of New Members

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair, recognized Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Unit Director, DSHS to provide new member update. Ms. Wiseman explained the council is awaiting replacements for Dr. Feyi Obamahinti, Ms. Felicia Fruia-Edge, and Ms. Ardis Reed whose terms ended in February 2023. The Governor's office has not appointed replacements. Ms. Wiseman is confident replacements for the members whose terms have ended will be named by the July 2023 TDC meeting.

Agenda Item 3: Consideration of January 12, 2023 Draft meeting minutes

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair requested approval of the TDC January 12, 2023 Draft meeting minutes. Ms. Lisa Golden, Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Representative (non-voting member) motioned to amend page 9.e. second bullet to read 'TWC' not 'TWFC'.

Motion:

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice Chair requested a motion to approve the January 12, 2023 TDC Draft minutes as amended by Ms. Lisa Golden. The motion was made by Dr. Gary Francis. Seconded by Ms. Maryanne Strobel. Dr. Stephen Ponder instructed Ms. Jacqueline Thompson, ACCO Facilitator to conduct a roll call vote. Ms. Thompson advised the chair, the motion carried by a vote of Seven (7) Yeas, zero (0) Nays, zero, and one (1) Absent.

Agenda Item 4: Mental Health and Diabetes-Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute – Dr. Hani Talebi, Ph.D., LSSP, Vice President, Health System Integration, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute.

Highlights from Dr. Talebi's presentation:

- Review prevalence rate and common diabetes & mental / behavioral health comorbidities encountered by providers caring for patients with diabetes.
- Explore evidence-based strategies used to address complex presentations which occur while treating patients with diabetes.
- Describe how the Collaborative Care Model (CoCM) is both an effective and financially sustainable means by which to co-manage diabetes and mental /behavioral health illnesses.
- Likelihood of depression in those with diabetes is 1.5-2 times that of those

without diabetes.

- Prevalence of anxiety disorders in individuals diagnosed with diabetes is estimated to be as high as 40%, which is over two times greater than rates of the general population.
- Three types of therapeutic modalities have been utilized to ameliorate depression in patients with diabetes:
 - Psychotherapy
 - Pharmacotherapy (e.g., antidepressants, anxiolytics, etc.)
 - Collaborative care
- Other effective approaches include interpersonal therapy, motivational interviewing, Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), and Acceptance & Commitment Therapy (ACT).

Agenda Item 5: Updates from Workgroups

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair led workgroup updates. Two workgroups:

- Advocacy and Outreach Workshop (AOW)
- Health Professionals Outcomes Workshop (HPOW)

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair recognized Mr. Jason Ryan to present for AOW Workgroup. Highlights from Mr. Ryan's update included two priorities in the 2023 State Plan:

- Improving Eye Health
- Improving Mental Health

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair, provided a brief update for the HPOW Workgroup.

Workgroup addressed state plan priorities listed below:

- Reducing identifiable health disparities for persons with diabetes and/or obesity.
- Expanding the use of the use of advance diabetes technologies.
- Increasing access to Insulin and Insulin treatments.

Agenda Item 6: State Plan Recommendations

Dr. Christine Wicke joined the meeting at approximately 1:45 p.m.

Committee members discussed changes to 2023 State Plan draft sent via email by Julia Robinson.

Agenda Item 7: State Plan Writing Responsibilities

Ms. Julia Robinson, TDC Liaison presented the timeline for 2023 State Plan Writing Responsibilities.

- Most of the workplan is written by TDC members.
- DSHS writes the executive summary.
- Dr. Francis volunteered to write the background.
- The final draft is due to Ms. Robinson May 19, 2023.
- TDC members vote on the final draft during July 20, 2023 TDC meeting.
- Final State Plan is submitted to the Legislature on November 1, 2023

Agenda Item 8: Updates from state agency representatives

a. Department of State Health Services, presenter Dr. Kelly Fegan-Bohm did not have any agency updates. Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Unit Director, DSHS provided the following program updates:

DSHS Council Liaison

- Julie Ketelsen, MPH, CHES, was hired in Chronic Disease Unit as a Council Liaison. In this role, she will coordinate and support multiple councils the Unit supports. She will be the main contact for Council members. Ms. Julie Ketelsen will coordinate the logistics of scheduling and conducting Council meetings, maintain the Council roster, welcome and train new Council members, facilitate the development of the Council’s legislative report, and other logistical duties.
- Ms. Julie Ketelsen will work in collaboration with Julia Robinson who will continue with the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) and provide guidance on the programmatic aspects of Council activities, such as the Council’s legislative report.
- Ms. Julie Ketelsen will be in contact with the Council after the April 27, 2023, meeting and will coordinate the July Council meeting as well as activities related to subcommittees.

2320 Grant

- On March 7, 2023, DSHS applied for a 5-year funding opportunity through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, called the A Strategic Approach to Advancing Health Equity for Priority Populations with or at Risk for Diabetes, CDC-RFA-DP-23-0020. This funding opportunity will fund partner entities to increase capacity of diabetes prevention and management resources throughout Texas. Notification of award is expected by June 2023. If awarded, grant activities will begin in September 2023.

Legislative Mandated Report

- DSHS began compiling information for the Assessment of Texas State Agency Programs for the Prevention and Treatment of Diabetes 2023. DSHS will be working with the Health and Human Services Commission to complete the report by November 2023. The assessment is

mandated by the Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 103 and will be submitted to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and the Texas Legislature.

Thanked the Council members and Julia Robinson for all their hard work and time spent working on the state plan priorities and writing draft recommendations.

b. Health and Human Services Commission updates presented by Dr. Mitchel Abramsky, Associate Medical Director, HHSC.

- Omnipod™ will no longer be DNE but pharmacy benefit only. Vendor Drug program is currently exploring how to get it as a benefit to the pharmacy.
- HB 2658, 87th Regular Session directed HHSC to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of providing:
 - Diabetes self-management education and support services and
 - Medical nutrition therapy services to Medicaid recipients
- Waiting for new CMS recommendations relating to Continuous Glucose monitoring.
- If DSMES is proven cost effective, it will receive additional funding.

c. Teacher's Retirement System of Texas

Ms. Umme Oan Ali, Engagement Specialist, TRS did not have any agency updates to share with the council.

d. Employees Retirement System of Texas

Ms. Diane Kongevick, Director of Group Benefits, ERS provided the following updates:

- HealthSelect™ of Texas is the largest plan which covers active employees and eligible dependents as well as retirees and eligible dependents.
 - 80% are registered in Health Select of Texas.
- Before 2020 Mental Health Benefits were provided by Magellan through a capitated arrangement with Blue Cross HealthSelect™ of Texas.
- Blue Cross became the mental health provider during the pandemic in 2020.
- Mental Health accessible through virtual visits at no cost.
- www.ers.tx.gov/wellness for webinars and other resources available online.

- State employees and their dependents are allowed to use Doctor on Demand at no cost.
- FY20- Approximately 9,400 participants.
- FY22-Approximately 37,000 participants.
- ERS is committed to mental health

Implementation of free test trips and diabetic supplies is accomplishment of ERS noted by Ms. Kongevick is something ERS implemented approximately two years ago. Participation amount participants continues to increase.

- e. Texas Workforce Commission update provided by Ms. Lisa Golden, Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Diabetes Specialist.
- April is Autism Awareness Month. Ms. Golden stated 57% of persons with Autism are at higher risk of diabetes. Likelihood of developing Type 1 Diabetes is 64% and 146% more likely for developing Type 2 Diabetes.
 - Medical Device on Visual Accessibility Act was reintroduced at the Federal level. Texas state representatives John Bucy and Pete Sessions are supporting passage at the state level. Many home diabetes home test products are not accessible for the visually impaired.
 - Currently Recruiting Diabetes Care and Education Specialists. Ms. Golden noted a certificate of participation is provided after successful completion of the training.
 - Will host Texas Confidence Builder and train Diabetes Educators on adaptations or workarounds when working with a variety of disabilities.
 - People who are interested should email Lisa Golden at Lisa.Golden@twc.texas.gov.
 - The training will be live.

Agenda Item #9 Announcements and follow up items from January meeting

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair reminded everyone there are numerous camps available to children with Diabetes, like the Lions Club Camp for Children with Diabetes which is provided at no cost. Dr. Ponder recognized Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Unit Director, DSHS who provided the following announcements:

- The Diabetes Newsletter: *Diabetes News You Can Use*. The next issue will be available on Monday, May 1, 2023. It contains a list of camps for children with diabetes.

- Information on how to Donate to Texas Diabetes Council. People should email Ms. Wiseman or the Diabetes inbox if they donate so the funds can be tracked.
 - Money received during the fiscal year needs to be spent during the same fiscal year or it may revert.
 - There aren't restrictions on how the funds are spent, but they must be within scope allowable by statute. Check donations should include the following information:

Make Check Payable To:
 Texas Department of State Health Services
 Memo line, write: ZZ108-001 TDC G73000 279

Checks should be mailed to DSHS using the complete address:
 Texas Department of State Health Services
 Cash Receipts Branch, MC 2003
 P. O. Box 149347
 Austin, Texas 78714-9347

Ms. Julia Robinson, TDC Council Liaison advised this was her last meeting as the liaison for TDC. Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair thanked Ms. Robinson for her service and wished her well in her future endeavors.

Agenda Item #10 Public Comment

There was no written or oral comment.

Agenda Item #11 Date and topics for next Meeting

- Bylaws update
- 2023 Texas Diabetes State Plan – Vote on Final Draft
- Discussion – How to enact recommendations outlined in the 2023 TDC State Plan.
- Dr. Ninfa Purcell recommended giving more discussion time on action items and work the committee is doing. Dr. Peña-Purcell and Dr. Ponder suggested inviting speakers from organizations such as Association of Diabetic Care & Education Specialists (ADCES) to speak at the next TDC meeting.

- Council discussion of specific topic (upcoming ADCES meeting) was halted by Mr. John Chacón, ACCO Facilitator and Onsite Producer as he reminded members the topic being discussed was not on the posted public agenda for this meeting.

Dr. Stephen Ponder provided closing remarks and announced the date for the next TDC meeting will be Thursday, July 20, 2023.

Ms. Wiseman reminded Council members that if they want to speak at a conference in their regular professional capacity and reference the TDC, it's fine. If someone wants to speak at a meeting and specifically give a presentation as a TDC member on the TDC, the Council will have to vote.

- TDC may only vote on items during official Council meetings.
- The chair can always call an official meeting between regularly scheduled meetings.

Dr. Wicke suggested having someone from the VA present at the October 2023 meeting.

Dr. Ponder suggested having a presentation in 2024 on the new therapies that are available.

Agenda Item #12 Adjournment

Dr. Stephen Ponder, Vice-Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

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Below is the link to the archived video of the April 27, 2023 Texas Diabetes Council meeting that can be viewed approximately two years from date of meeting. (To view and listen to the entirety of the meeting and public comment provided click on the link below).

[Texas Diabetes Council](#)